opportunities let us try and realize the greatness of our responsibilities. Let us see what has already been accomplished. According to the best statistics there are 1,900,000 teachers and 15,800,000 scholars in regular attendance upon the Sabbath Schools. Of these 1,000,000 teachers and nearly 8,000,000 scholars belong to our country. Nearly one sixth of our population is in the Sabbath School every Sunday reasoning of righteousness, temperance and judgment to come. Infinitely great are the influences resulting therefrom. We cannot in our short sightedness measure it nor *comprehend* it. There is laid upon the Sunday School teachers great duties and great responsibilities. In the humble work of teaching God's holy law to the children and youth of our country he is performing a service which will last beyond time into the unknown future, where our works follow us. Then we as Sunday School workers have opportunities to interest the little ones in the great mission work of the churches. We as a church have never been interested in mission work as we should be. True our church organization is of recent date, and the church with which many of us were formerly connected: their mission work is to a great extent poselyting. Let *us* my *brethren* not fall into this error, but let our efforts reach out to those in our large cities, out in the mining camps, and on the broad plain of the great west, to the colored people of the *south*, to all of every race and nation in our own land who have been *unreached* and are *unsaved*. And then it is not only our duty but our great privilege to send the Gospel to the millions across the sea, and in the isles thereof who are in heathen darkness and the *shadow* of *death* with no knowledge of the great salvation heralded by angel messengers,—the song, "peace on earth good will to men" ringing down the centuries till the time which cannot be far distant when the word of the Lord shall so fill the earth that the mountains shall shake with the swellings of his praise. We can never fulfill the commands of our ascending Lord, *go preach* my Gospel to every creature till the children are trained to regular, *systematic*, *liberal*, *giving*. We cannot carry on successfully any Christian work without money. We of this generation hold very closely to our purses, so closely that the world will not be evangelized by us. But if all the children who are in the Sunday Schools are taught their duty to send the Gospel to these benighted ones of earth the knowledge and the glory of the Lord would soon cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

Then also it is the duty of the Sabbath School teachers to work in the temperance cause, and his solemn responsibility to hold forth the words of inspiration. Look not upon the wine when it is red. Who has sorrow who has woe, they who linger long at the wine. And then that most solemn declaration. No *drunkard* shall *inherit* the kingdom of *heaven*. I am not here today to speak of the evil of the rum traffic; you have all experienced something of it. It teaches us in so many places. There are so many homes in which the destroyer has entered and ruined the *brightest* and most *promising* that we wonder if every mother as she looks upon her beautiful girls and brave manly boys does not tremble at the fate that may be theirs. While we are earnestly working for the prohibition of the liquor traffic by statutory laws, we know we shall not completely eradicate intemperance from our land until our people are educated up to the standard of total abstinence.

We should use every possible moral and educational force for the suppression of this evil, as we have tried to show the Sabbath School is the most powerful factor in the world. There are so many children come to our Sabbath Schools from homes made sad by this dreadful curse. We can only pray for the wisdom that is from a love to train those coming from such homes and surrounding influences to noble manhood and womenhood. So many Christians sit idle while the command includes all. Go work in my vineyard. Go preach my Gospel. Go teach all nations. Not only to the favored three, Peter, James and John, not only to the twelve apostles, but to all the disciples was the command given. And to the woman who came early on their errand of love and ministration, the risen Savior said, go tell. The one who has received the one talent is held to the same responsibility as he who received the ten. Brethren and sisters, fellow workers in the Sunday School, while working for our own church, let us lay aside the narrow pharisaical spirit so many of us received as an *inheritance* from our former church connection, drop denominational distinctions, and *work*, not as sectarians but as Christians, in saving the children and carrying God's word to those who have it not. With divided ranks we cannot achieve anything. But by marching in solid column with Christians of every name under our leader Jesus our Lord. If we fall out by the way, and the different denominations put the sword to each other's breast, the conflict in the general field will go against us. There is much to draw all Christians together. There is our King's command to love one another, even as he has loved us. There is our common inheritance of the Gospel, and our common danger in presence of a common foe.

United we stand, divided we fall, and our fall will be a grievous one. Then with a new appreciation of our responsibility, an anointing of the Holy Spirit, new vows of consecration, let us go from this convention to work as never *before*, until all shall know the Lord. And if our efforts grow faint, and courage weakens let us remember that God's word is sure and cannot fail. And His promise is, lo I am with you always.

Select Notes.

BY J. B. LAIR.

—There is now a report from Palestine to the effect that the Palestine Exploration Co., have discovered the "Pool of Bethesda." It is thought to be without a doubt, the Pool that John (and he only) talks about in his 5th chapter. This is where Christ healed the man who had been diseased for 38 years. And for which-being done on the Sabbath the Jews sought to kill Jesus.

—I notice so frequently, some one saying thus and so could be done "If we only had money." I know it takes money in this age of the world to accomplish almost every thing, but I do hope that we will not become too money struck. Let us not make money the prompting feature of our lives. But as money is a great factor in the lives of people these days, we all need more or less of it. Hence I have a notion to make a proposition, to every individual member of the Brethren church—not one excepted—to raise a little money; not for myself, not for any other individual, but for the cause of our Master. Now look here, every one of you! The Apostle has told us to "lay by in store, on the first day of the week," but I do not suppose that the Apostle would be particular about the day, just so its done. Now you are willing to heed and obey the Apostles advice are you not? Of course you are—well then how much are you willing to give—say each quarter; can you give ten cents a quarter? "Oh yes twenty-five cents." Well I thought you would, for there is nothing small about a Christian. Twenty-five cents a quarter, four quarters in a year, one dollar each. Now let us count noses, ten, fifteen, twenty thousand, how much would that be a year. My little boy says $20,000. "Oh my" that won't do! That is to much to begin with, it would spoil us. Well some of the members are poor, some are sick, some are so careless about such things that they may forget to "lay any by" for the Master. Let us cut it down about half, then we have $10,000 in the hands of the treasurer. We'll not use any the first year, but the second year we will use what was paid the first &c. Now at the beginning of the second year, the proper committee will be able to put a number of Missionarys in the fields, to work for the Lord, and my word for it, you will be so surprised and so well pleased with the work that they accomplish, that you will double the "laying by" right away, and every body will be so well pleased that all will "lay by in store" for the Lord. And I tell you we will accomplish something that will surprise somebody. Now if you don't believe it, just hand your first quarter to some responsible brother or sister in your church, and tell him what it is for. If all of you as that, and I tell you we will be moving on at a great rate, at once. Who will do it? 20,000 I's contrary no—0. If you want to know any more about it, I can tell you how "we used to do." We did it just like business and it was a success too.

I thought I had finished this item, but I find I had not. We don't only want money to put Evangelists in the field with, but we want it to build, or rather assist in building houses to worship in. Don't you know that a church house always proves a success, and you want to see the cause of Christ prosper; so I know you will pay your twenty-five cents each quarter. Oh yes somebody says times are hard, and we can't spare the money, well now just think, can't spare the Lord any thing, can't spare Him any thing, not even a dollar a year, that is all we ask for in this case. Suppose now that the Lord would be just as sparing with His blessings towards you, what would you be soon? Say, how much do you spend for tobacco, cigars, and such unnecessaries. Oh shame, you are willing to spend a good deal more for your dear self, than for the Lord. Say, while you think of it now, just about how much do you spend upon yourself, unnecessarily each year? More than one dollar I dare say, do you think you would get off at ten dollars! Now just keep an itemized account with yourself for a year, and see how much you will have left of $25,00; I mean for unnecessary things. Now are you willing to spend as much for the Lord each year, as you do for yourself unnecessarily? If you are, my dear brothers and sisters, we will soon have a surplus in the treasury. Not as great as the U. S. has of of course, but a very respectable sum.

Now come all, just be as liberal with your money towards the Lord, as you want the Lord to be in blessings towards you, and you will give something I know. Don't be grumbling and complaining all the time about hard times. It's only Plunry's excuse, and reminds me of a circumstance that occured not a hundred years ago, which the reader will excuse. A certain good good brother always had a good deal to complain about at class meeting, times were hard, taxes were high, he was not very stout, was poor, had a hard time to get along, somebody was always mistreating him, &c., &c., and always concluded his remarks with "Brethren pray for me." His speech became intolerable, and at the close of one I need not say the last one of his speeches, when he sat down, a brother arose in the "amen corner" and said "brethren let us puke." It makes me feel a good deal that way to hear so much complaining, where there is no good cause.

Well I am not done yet, I am probably not the poorest man living, but I am poor enough; but I can give my dollar a year, and I am going to do it too—some of my family are members, and I will vouch for them too. Now how many can we enlist to do something. Don't let us live for a hundred and fifty years like the church did once and do nothing. I say this with all due respect, to the old brothers, but "let us arise and go hence," do something, or my word for it—it will not be done. If we "wait for something to turn up," it will never turn up, we must turn it up.

Now you do not need to respond to this call because I ask it, but I know it is right; a step in the right direction, and we must work if we will accomplish anything. The old adage, "The Lord helps them that help themselves," will apply in this case, and if we do not do something to show ourselves worthy, we ought to be ashamed of the name of "Gospel Christian."

I close this with a fervent desire that we all, every one will do all he can for the cause of Christ, and consequently for themselves. Then when we come before the Great Judge to give an account for our Stewardship here, we will have an account to our credit on heaven's ledger. But should we appear then with our page a blank, what would our end be? I ask again. Oh what would our end be? "Think on these things."

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